GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1082
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2016
Rota-Virus
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rota virus is one of the leading cause of severe diarrhoea among children and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has launched Rota virus vaccine as part of the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the child mortality rate is likely to be reduced after the launch of Rota virus vaccine in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a): Yes, Rotavirus is the most common cause of severe diarrhoea (severe dehydrating acute gastroenteritis) among children under five years of age. A recent study estimating rotavirus burden in India (published in 2014) indicates that nearly 113.7 lakh episodes of rotavirus diarrhoea occur in the country annually of which about 872,000 cases require hospitalization and ~78,000 children die due rotavirus diarrhoea every year.

(b): Yes, the Rotavirus vaccine has been launched on 26th March 2016 as part of Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). The state of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Odisha introduced Rotavirus vaccine as phased introduction.

(c): Introduction of Rota virus vaccine with coverage in the entire country would lead to reduced mortality and morbidity associated with Rotavirus disease as indicated at (a) above.